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LB 451

to amend the bill, and this was not done. And this was passed by this body without dissent. Now one of the things I hear is, well there's seven more people, there's seven more positions. So in our minds, we have an image of seven more people going into offices. Ninety-three counties, 1.7 million people, well what difference is that going to make? Well, that image is faulty. True, there will be 13 total when we override this veto. But that 13 positions are split apart. I asked my good friend, Senator Cunningham here, how many FTEs do you have at your store? Does that equal the number of employees that you have? The funding of these seven positions will enable over 200 probation officers, which they are currently trained to perform this work. You will have statewide coverage. This enables our probation officers to effectively do the job that they can't do today. They...going back to my earlier crusade of retaining our probation officers and increasing the number of probation officers we have in this state makes me sensitive towards Senator Thompson's effort here. They're overworked, we need more time, we need to provide these seven positions. You're not going to have seven people. You won't be able to find next year if we override the veto a picture of the seven people that was reflected by LB 451. You will have the equivalent of seven more FTEs and those services performed across the state. Now that's not coming from Senator Hilgert, that's coming from our partner in state government, the judiciary. They're unequivocally supportive of this. The two branches of government are unequivocally and without opposition supportive of this concept. So as you can tell, I'm supportive of the override. And we'd encourage the body to hold true, to what in your own judgment has been a good bill, a good process...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR HILGERT: ...and reform to what we have to address some of the problems. Is this a panacea? Does this do everything? Of course not. But you know that we need to do more for juvenile crime in this state, LB 451 does that. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Hilgert. Senator Dwite Pedersen.